RE: HB 5521: An Act Requiring Licensure of Master's Level Psychologists

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and Members of the Public Health Committee:

As a Licensed Psychologist in Connecticut, I am writing in strong opposition to HB 5521, for the following 4 reasons:

- 1) The term "psychologist" reflects doctoral level providers (both in Connecticut and on a national level);
- 2) Allowing licensure of master's level psychologists would create public confusion regarding provider education and training; and,
- 3) Master's level clinicians are currently able to become licensed in Connecticut as "Licensed Professional Counselors" (LPC's).
- 4) This bill does not impact school psychologists, as they are under the authority of the Department of Education.

For each of these reasons, I am urging you to oppose HB 5521.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dwain Fehon

Dwain C. Fehon, Psy.D.
Chief Psychologist, Psychiatric Services
Yale New-Haven Hospital
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
Yale School of Medicine
20 York Street, Fitkin 603
New Haven, CT 06510
(tel) 203-688-9779
(fax) 203-688-4920